

In the Claims

1 1. [Original] A consumable management device comprising:
2 an interface configured to receive a first message including a first
3 designation identifying an imaging consumable used by an image forming device
4 to form hard images; and
5 processing circuitry coupled with the interface, the processing circuitry
6 being configured to convert the first designation identifying the imaging
7 consumable to a second designation identifying the imaging consumable, to
8 generate a second message including the second designation, and to forward
9 the second message to the interface for communication to an entity for assisting
10 with replenishment of the imaging consumable.

1 2. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 interface is configured to receive another first message including another first
3 designation identifying another imaging consumable, and the processing circuitry
4 is configured to convert the another first designation into another second
5 designation identifying the another imaging consumable, and to generate the
6 second message comprising a list including the second designations.

1 3. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to generate the second message comprising a
3 quantity corresponding to the imaging consumable identified by the second
4 designation.

1 4. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to generate the second message comprising an
3 email message and to include the second designation as an attachment of the
4 email.

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B

1 5. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to convert the first designation comprising a
3 manufacturer part number for the imaging consumable to the second designation
4 comprising a customer part number for the imaging consumable.

1 6. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 further
2 comprising storage circuitry configured to store a look-up table, and the
3 processing circuitry is configured to access the look-up table to convert the first
4 designation to the second designation.

1 7. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to export the second designations into one of a
3 plurality of formats corresponding to the entity to generate the second message.

1 8. [Original] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to communicate the second message at a
3 predetermined moment in time.

1 9. [Original] An image forming system comprising:
2 an image forming device configured to use an imaging consumable
3 to form hard images, to monitor the status of the imaging consumable, and to
4 generate a first message including a first designation identifying the imaging
5 consumable responsive to the monitoring; and
6 a consumable management device coupled with the image forming
7 device and configured to receive the first message, to convert the first
8 designation identifying the imaging consumable to a second designation
9 identifying the imaging consumable, and to communicate a second message
10 including the second designation to an entity for assisting with replenishment of
11 the imaging consumable.

1 10. [Original] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 consumable management device is configured to receive another first message
3 including another first designation identifying another imaging consumable, to

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B

4 convert the another first designation into another second designation identifying
5 the another imaging consumable, and to generate the second message
6 comprising a list including the second designations.

1 11. [Original] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 consumable management device is configured to generate the second message
3 comprising an email message and to include the second designation as an
4 attachment of the email.

1 12. [Original] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 consumable management device is configured to convert the first designation
3 comprising a manufacturer part number for the imaging consumable to the
4 second designation comprising a customer part number for the imaging
5 consumable.

1 13. [Original] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 image forming device comprises a printer.

1 14. [Original] A method of replenishing an imaging consumable usable
2 to form hard images, the method comprising:
3 receiving a first message including a first designation identifying
4 the imaging consumable;
5 converting the first designation to a second designation different
6 than the first designation, the second designation identifying the imaging
7 consumable;
8 generating a second message including the second designation;
9 and
10 communicating the second message including the second
11 designation to an entity for assisting with replenishment of the imaging
12 consumable.

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B

1 15. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 generating comprises generating the second message comprising a list including
3 a plurality of different second designations identifying a plurality of different
4 respective imaging consumables.

1 16. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 generating comprises generating the second message including a quantity
3 corresponding to the imaging consumable identified by the second designation.

1 17. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 generating comprises:
3 generating the second message comprising an email message; and
4 providing the second designation as an attachment of the email message.

1 18. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 converting comprises converting the first designation comprising a manufacturer
3 part number for the imaging consumable to the second designation comprising a
4 customer part number for the imaging consumable.

1 19. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 generating comprises exporting the second designation into one of a plurality of
3 formats corresponding to the entity.

1 20. [Original] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 communicating comprises communicating at a predetermined moment in time.

1 21. [Currently Amended] The device in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein the entity comprises an initial a first entity, and wherein the first
3 designation is usable by another a second entity to identify the consumable and
4 the second designation is usable by the initial first entity different than the
5 another second entity to identify the consumable.

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B

1 22. [Currently Amended] The device in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein the ~~first~~ first designation is not recognizable by the entity.

1 23. [Currently Amended] The system in accordance with claim 9
2 wherein the entity comprises ~~an~~ initial a first entity, and wherein the first
3 designation is usable by ~~another~~ a second entity to identify the consumable and
4 the second designation is usable by the initial first entity different than the
5 ~~another~~ second entity to identify the consumable.

1 24. [Currently Amended] The system in accordance with claim 9
2 wherein the ~~first~~ first designation is not recognizable by the entity.

1 25. [Currently Amended] The method in accordance with claim 14
2 wherein the entity comprises ~~an~~ initial a first entity, and wherein the first
3 designation is usable by ~~another~~ a second entity to identify the consumable and
4 the second designation is usable by the initial first entity different than the
5 ~~another~~ second entity to identify the consumable.

1 26. [Currently Amended] The method in accordance with claim 14
2 wherein the ~~first~~ first designation is not recognizable by the entity.

1 27. [New] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to forward the second message responsive to
3 a predetermined status of the imaging consumable.

1 28. [New] The device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the
2 processing circuitry is configured to automatically generate and forward the
3 second message to the interface without user intervention.

1 29. [New] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 consumable management device circuitry is configured to communicate the
3 second message responsive to a predetermined status of the imaging
4 consumable.

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B

1 30. [New] The system in accordance with claim 9 wherein the
2 consumable management device is configured to automatically communicate the
3 second message without user intervention.

1 31. [New] The method in accordance with claim 14 further comprising
2 detecting a predetermined status of the imaging consumable, and wherein the
3 communicating is responsive to the detecting.

1 32. [New] The method in accordance with claim 14 wherein the
2 generating and the communicating comprise automatically generating and
3 communicating without user intervention.

PDNO. 10003227-1
S/N: 09/738,795
Amendment B